

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/480,724

Examiner

Harish T. Dass

Applicant(s)

CAREY ET AL.

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment of Oct. 07, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 20,21,23-39 and 42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

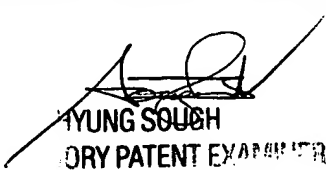
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


YOUNG SOUH
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
BIOLOGY CENTER

DETAILED ACTION

Claim 1-19, 22, and 40-41 are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest the limitations of:

ranking at least some of the available securities to form a group of ranked securities, said ranking comprising ranking according to said price appreciation to assign each of said available securities one or more separate price appreciation ranks, ranking according to said return on assets ratio to assign each of said available securities a separate return on assets ratio rank, ranking according to said price to cashflow ratio to assign each of said available securities a separate price to cashflow rank, and ***determining for each of said available securities an average rank comprising the average of the one or more separate price appreciation ranks, separate return on assets ratio rank and separate price to cashflow ratio rank for said security***; and

selecting at least some of the ranked securities to form a group of selected securities; wherein at least one of the steps of calculating, ranking, and selecting is carried out by a computer, *as recited in independent claims 20 and 42.*

US 6,317,726 (O'Shaughnessy) discloses Market Capitalization, where the invention primarily studied two groups. The first stock group includes only stocks with a

Art Unit: 3628

market capitalization in excess of \$150 million (adjusted for inflation); it is called All Stocks throughout this application. The inventor chose \$150 million after consulting a trader at a large Wall Street brokerage who felt it was the minimum necessary if he was investing \$100 million in 50 stocks in 1995. This figure avoids focusing on tiny stocks and focuses only on those stocks which a professional investor could buy without running into liquidity problems. The second stock group includes larger, better-known stocks with market capitalizations greater than the database average (usually the top 16 percent of the database by market capitalization); it is called Large Stocks throughout the application. O'Shaughnessy discloses all the steps of independent claim 20 and claim 42 except ***determining for each of said available securities an average rank comprising the average of the one or more separate price appreciation ranks, separate return on assets ratio rank and separate price to cashflow ratio rank for said security.***

WO 00/73946 A1 (Bakaya et al - PCT/AU00/00551) discloses calculating best and worst performing shares over various period of time, using historical information which may be gathered and used to test the hypotheses on buy and sell signal/tips and other variables related to buy/sell decision. Each stock may be given a percentile ranking as per a selected criterion. This percentile ranking would indicate what percent of the selected group were off than that stock for criterion. Bakaya et al does not a step of ***determining for each of said available securities an average rank comprising the average of the one or more separate price appreciation ranks, separate return on***

Art Unit: 3628

assets ratio rank and separate price to cashflow ratio rank for said security, as recited in independent claims 20 and 42.

NPL – Non of the EIC search of non-patent literature discloses more that ranking and averaging stocks based on price appreciation.

Each of the prior arts taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest the above features recited in independent claim 17.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T. Dass whose telephone number is 571-272-6793. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on 571-272-6799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3628

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Harish T Dass

Examiner

Art Unit 3628

12/28/05


HYUNG SOULSH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600